

people that he loved, so that those of us back home can enjoy safety and freedom. His bravery and the bravery of all of his comrades will never be forgotten by a grateful nation.

Jane Cox, Nathan's mother, said that Nathan was very interested in foreign affairs and hence chose the Army to utilize his talents. She added that Nathan had finally come to terms with his "gift of being a leader." People who knew him describe a man with a great sense of humor who always looked on the bright side of everything. It is during these times of uncertainty abroad and at home that we look to the examples set by people like Staff Sergeant Cox, who carry out their duty in a way that is both courageous and honorable. I know that Nathan did not die in vain, but his tremendous sacrifice has helped to secure peace and freedom for the United States and our allies around the world.

U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE ANNIVERSARY

Mr. MARTINEZ. Madam President, for 219 years, the U.S. Marshals Service has helped to bring some of America's worst criminals to justice, and our Nation is a safer place because of their service. On their anniversary, I would like to offer my many thanks for their commitment to upholding the rule of law and their willingness to protect and serve Americans.

During their 219 years of service, the marshals have executed warrants, distributed Presidential proclamations, registered enemy aliens in a time of war, and helped conduct the national census. They have also ensured the safe conduct of judicial proceedings and protected Federal judges and jurors and other members of the Federal judiciary.

They lead the Witness Security Program; serving nearly 18,000 Government witnesses and their family members whose lives are in danger as a result of the witnesses' testimony against gangs, drug traffickers, terrorists, organized crime members, and other criminals.

Recently, the State of Florida enlisted the marshals' services to help combat rising instances of violent crime. During the 3-month effort, known as Operation Orange Crush, the Marshals' Regional Fugitive Task Force was responsible for arresting more than 2,400 violent criminal fugitives in Florida. The operation was an overwhelming success, and Florida is grateful for the men and women of the U.S. Marshals Service for helping to make it possible. I would like to offer my special thanks to a few of the officials who made Operation Orange Crush so successful: U.S. Marshal Service Director John F. Clark; U.S. Marshal for the Northern District of Florida, Dennis A. Williamson; U.S. Marshal for the Middle District of Florida Thomas D. Hurlburt, Jr.; and U.S. Marshal for the Southern District of Florida Christina Pharo.

As Americans, we are fortunate to have such a highly specialized law enforcement agency dedicated to protecting our personal freedoms and keeping criminals behind bars. I offer my heartiest congratulations to the U.S. Marshals Service on 219 good years and wish for many more to come.

TRIBUTE TO ASHLEY BROST

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I rise to recognize Ashley Brost, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several months.

Ashley is a graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD, and of Augustana College, where she majored in sociology. Currently, she is attending the University of South Dakota. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Ashley for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER FIERRO

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I rise to recognize Jennifer Fierro, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several months.

Jennifer was home schooled in Santa Ana, CA, and graduated from the University of South Dakota, where she majored in Spanish. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jennifer for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO JESSIE MILSTEAD

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I rise to recognize Jessie Milstead, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several months.

Jessie is a graduate of West Central High School in Hartford, SD, and in the spring, she will attend Northwestern College in Minnesota. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jessie for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

IDAHOANS SPEAK OUT ON HIGH ENERGY PRICES

Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, in mid-June, I asked Idahoans to share

with me how high energy prices are affecting their lives, and they responded by the hundreds. The stories, numbering well over 1,000, are heart-breaking and touching. To respect their efforts, I am submitting every e-mail sent to me through an address set up specifically for this purpose to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This is not an issue that will be easily resolved, but it is one that deserves immediate and serious attention, and Idahoans deserve to be heard. Their stories not only detail their struggles to meet everyday expenses, but also have suggestions and recommendations as to what Congress can do now to tackle this problem and find solutions that last beyond today. I ask unanimous consent to have today's letters printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

It is a relief to finally see someone in our legislation coming to the people for their input! I am currently serving in the USAF, stationed at Mountain Home AFB. I work in Flying Ops. I put about 35 miles a day on my vehicle, just coming to and going home from work. The base itself is ten miles away from town; my house, about 15 miles away from the base. The average price for a gallon of unleaded here is about \$4.09. The base has up until now been able to keep its gas prices under \$4, but finally hit it this past Monday. I drive a 4-cylinder VW Jetta, with a 14-gallon tank and it costs me \$46 to fill it up. I find myself only driving to and from work, as I do not feel like I can afford to drive anywhere else, which is a bummer as Mountain Home's resources are low and if I need something that I cannot find at Wal-Mart (like clothes and shoes for my infant daughter), I have to drive to Boise to get those, or home improvement material, or clothing for myself. I also find my grocery bill skyrocketing. I used to be able to spend \$150 and get food for two weeks. I now find that \$150 lasts me about a week, which is unacceptable. I am putting so much money towards the necessities that I hardly do any of the niceties anymore. My husband has parked his truck in favor of driving his motorcycle to work everyday to save us money, and we are selling our boat as it just costs way too much to fill it up, and the truck to tow the boat to any lake. So, in the end, energy costs have driven me to only drive to and from work, sell my boat, park my truck, and spend a ridiculous amount of money on food. Thanks for your time.

JESSICA, Mountain Home.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my concerns regarding the escalating price of living in Idaho due in large part to the ever increasing cost of energy.

I work for Alaska Airlines in Boise, Idaho. My gas bill to cover my commute has gone from \$100 to \$300 per month. Our industry has been heavily affected by the obscene rise in the cost of aviation fuel. Alaska Air is a profitable business. They've worked very hard at putting a lot of cash in the bank. They never just spent their way into bankruptcy, then emerged a few years later with all of their debts relieved.

Today, in order to stay alive, in addition to raising air fares and reducing routes, they have to charge seemingly ridiculous charges for the ordinary services associated with travel. And still the cost of fuel rises. Just today we received the "second" corporate letter, advising us that Alaska Airlines is doing all it possibly can to reduce costs, that